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Forest Service News

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Forest Service Director of Watershed Management to Retire

Arvid C. Ellson, Director of Watershed Management for the Pacific Northwest Region of the USDA Forest Service, will retire June 13 with more than 31 years of government service, including 2½ years in the U.S. Navy. No successor has been chosen, said Regional Forester Jeff M. Sirmon.

Ellson has been in his present job in the Regional Office, Portland, since 1974. He also served as leader of the Mount St. Helens Planning Team following the May 18, 1980, eruption of the volcano. The team was responsible for planning long-range and short-range efforts to deal with the impacts on southwest Washington of the Mount St. Helens eruption.

A native of Minnesota and a forestry graduate of Oregon State University, Ellson began his career as a seasonal employee in 1948. He received his permanent appointment in July 1954 on the Siuslaw National Forest in Corvallis. He also served on the Umpqua National Forest in Roseburg (1963-1967), the Regional Office (1967-1970), and in Washington, D.C. He returned to Portland in 1973 and, after a short assignment in the Timber Management unit, was assigned to his present position.

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